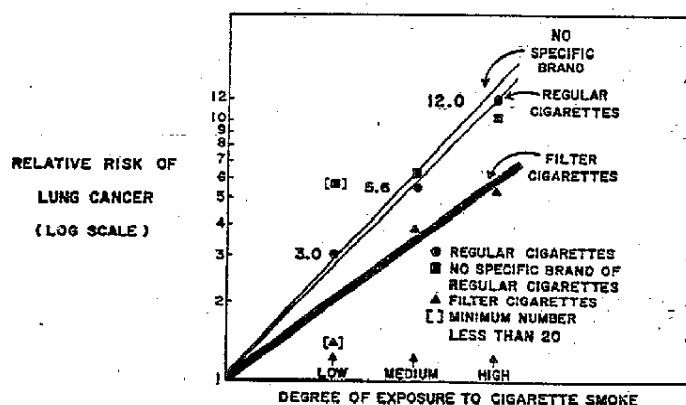


Effect of Filter Cigarettes on the Risk of Lung Cancer

IRWIN D. J. BROSS, *Ph.D.*, *Roswell Park Memorial Institute, Buffalo, New York 14203*

SOME epidemiological data are presented on the question: Does switching to filter cigarettes reduce the risk of lung cancer? On the basis of these data, the answer is: The risk seems to be reduced to about 60% of what it would have been if the smoker had not switched. Unfortunately, however, even with this reduction the risk is still 4 times that of a nonsmoker, and further steps toward a less harmful cigarette are needed.

The data here are on 974 white male patients with lung cancer who were seen at Roswell Park Memorial Institute between 1960 and 1966. These patients have been matched case-for-case on age and entry date with white male patients who had no diagnosis of neoplastic disease and who were seen at the same institution in the same time period. Table 1 gives the basic data. It also defines the degree of exposure categories used in text-figure 1. However the discussion will focus on text-figure 1 since this one



TEXT-FIGURE 1.—Relative risk of lung cancer by type of cigarette and degree of exposure: Risks relative to those of nonsmokers. Lines show filter risks are 60% of the regular risks.